

Message Text

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72

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 RSC-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /080 W

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R 312306Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5541

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 378

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS ELAB ILO PLO PFOR AORG ICFTU

SUBJ ILO WORKER CHAIRMAN VIEWS PLO ISSUE

1. PRES. JOE MORRIS PEAKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF
WORKER GROUP IN INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION TOLD LABATT
THAT HE FEARS THAT WESTERN NATIONS LACK THE VOTES TO POSTPONE
PLO OBSERVER STATUS FROM FEBRUARY TO MAY MEETING OF ILO
GOVERNING BODY. HIS REASONING CLOSELY PARALLELED THAT OF
ICFTU GENERAL SECRETARY KERSTEN AS REPORTED IN BRUSSELS 0822.

2. ONLY SLIM HOPE FOR POSTPONEMENT WOULD BE IF MAJORITY OF
GOVERNMENT MEMBERS ON GB COULD PERSUADE ILO DG BLANCHARD NOT
TO LET PLO ISSUE COME TO A VOTE. MORRIS SEES

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EMPLOYER AND WORKER GROUP VOTES CANCELLING EACH OTHER

OUT.

3. MORRIS IS CONVINCED THAT OPPOSITION BY WESTERN
TRADE UNIONS TO PLO'S OBSERVER STATUS COULD JEOPARDIZE JUNE
ELECTION CHANCES OF ICFTU AFFILIATES, ENDANGER
HISTADRUT'S RE-ELECTION AS ALTERNATE MEMBER ON
WORKING GROUP AND PUT IRVING BROWN'S ELECTION AS NEW U.S.
WORKER DELGATE IN QUESTION. FOR THESE REASONS,
MORRIS PREFERS AVOIDING CONFRONTATION OVER PLO ISSUE
TO INSURE FAVORABLE ELECTION OUTCOME AT JUNE ILO
CONFERENCE WHICH HE CONSIDERS OF FAR MORE CRUCIAL
IMPORTANCE. HE HAD MENTIONED THESE CONSIDERATIONS
TO IRVING BROWN IN GENEVA, PRESUMABLY AT LAST GB
MEETING.
PORTER

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NNN

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